

Bobcats



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The Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (LDWF) provides advice on urban wildlife issues, but does not provide nuisance bobcat control.

- Small dogs should be accompanied while outside.
- Very tall woven wire fences can keep bobcats out of livestock enclosures.
- Floodlights can be used to deter bobcats.
- For more information on hunting and trapping bobcats:
[Hunting and Trapping Regulations](#)
- You may live trap and relocate bobcats without a permit ([Title 76](#)).

Biological Information

Distribution: widespread in Louisiana; widely distributed across the U.S., excluding central farming areas and the urban eastern sea coast

Habitat: heavily forested areas, swamps, bottomland hardwoods; dens in thick vegetation

Appearance: between a domestic cat and a cougar in size; average adult length is 25 to 30 inches (tail is 6 inches); weight 15-20 pounds; reddish or yellowish brown streaked and spotted with black

Reproduction: wails and screams during breeding season; breeds in mid

to late winter; 2-3 young; gestation of 62 days

Food habits: rabbits, mice, rats, squirrels, small birds, young livestock

Habits: good tree-climbers; solitary lifestyle except when mating.

Controls: adults rarely preyed upon; juveniles may be vulnerable to male bobcats, coyotes, eagles and fisher; vulnerable to rabies, feline distemper, mange, tapeworms, lice and bubonic plague

Values: contribute to the overall health and number of prey species by keeping the population controlled